

THE COPPER ERA

AND MORENCI LEADER

The Oldest Copper Pro
ducing District in the
State of Arizona.

VOLUME XXIII.

CLIFTON, ARIZONA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1921

NUMBER 14

SUPERVISORS FIX COUNTY
TAX RATE FOR YEAR 1921

The Board of Supervisors met at the Court House on last Monday afternoon for the purpose of fixing the tax rate for the year 1921, and the following is a schedule of the rate fixed for the various districts of the County:

Clifton, (including Town of Clifton): \$3.66; Morenci, \$1.94; Metcalf, \$2.16; Duncan, \$2.74; Franklin, \$2.70; Guthrie, York and Sheldon, \$2.61; Blue, \$1.76; Eagle, \$1.76.

The state and county rate this year is \$1.76 as against \$1.44 for the year 1920. The State rate this year being increased from 47 1/2 cents in 1920, to 73 cents this year, an increase of 25 1/2 cents; while the County rate in-

creased, 66 1/2 cents, from 96 1/2 in 1920 to \$1.03 this year.

The increase in the County rate is directly due to the loss in valuation of \$6,514,073.18, and it can be readily seen that had the valuation held up to the total valuation of the County in 1920, the County rate would have been approximately 15 cents less than in 1920, or about \$1 1/2 cents. This reduction would have been still greater but for the fact that a direct levy of \$66,000.00 for the completion of the Clifton-Springerville Highway project was made.

Greenlee is one of the few Counties in the State that reduced its budget materially, being approximately \$100,000.00 less than for the year 1920.

CARL HAYDEN BACKS
MINE ASSESSMENT
CHANGES

Washington, Aug. 11—The Hayden bill changing the time for doing assessment work on unpatented mineral claims from the calendar to fiscal year has passed the house and will probably be acted upon by the senate in the near future. The only way in which this change could be brought about was to extend the time in which the assessment work for 1921 may be performed from December 31, 1921, to July 1, 1922. The bill was amended to provide that the period within which the work to be done annually by mining claims shall commence at noon on July 1st instead of midnight on June 30. When this measure was under consideration by the house Congressman Hayden said:

"Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. Arentz) was kind enough to submit his amendment to me in advance of offering it and I am glad to accept it. The wisdom of beginning the year in which assessment work must be done at noon instead of midnight will not be disputed by anyone who is at all familiar with the location of mining claims. There have been frequent disputes caused by two or more men going upon the same piece of ground in the middle of the night, often without seeing each other. Rights mineral claims will henceforth be initiated when the sun is at meridian height, which is the beauty and glory of the day, instead of at that time of night—when churchyards yawn and hell itself breathes out contagion to this world.

"As to the bill proper, the arguments in favor of its enactment have been fully set forth in the report by the chairman of the committee on Mines and Mining (Mr. Rhodes) and by other gentlemen who have spoken here today. The desirability of changing the time for doing annual assessment work on mineral claims from the calendar year, beginning January 1, to the fiscal year, beginning July 1, has long been recognized and meets with the approval of practically all those engaged in prospecting and mining. As typical of many other statements in support of this change, let me quote from the Mining and Scientific Press of San Francisco:

"As we have suggested before, one excellent amendment of the present statute would change permanently the fiscal date for performing the annual assessment work from January 1 to July 1. Congressional action taken some months ago extended for six months, or until July 1, 1921, the final date for the completion of the work for 1920; accordingly, it would be convenient to make the suggested change at this time.

"In this connection it should not be forgotten that section 2 of the act to save daylight was not repealed and consequently the United States standard time for the zone in which a mining claim is located will govern, and not the local or sun time. In Arizona, for example, where the standard time is about 30 minutes ahead of the sun, prospectors and claim owners will avoid difficulty by remembering this fact at high noon on July 1."

One License Issued
To Honor and Obey

A marriage license was this week issued by the Clerk of the Superior Court to Reginald Beebe, to wed Mary Bullars, both parties being from Sanford.

GAS TAX NETS \$13,000

Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 16—Ernest R. Hall, secretary of state, today said that while all reports had not yet been received the income to the state from the one cent a gallon tax on gasoline during July probably would amount to \$13,000.

N. O. Wright, prominent rancher residing near York, spent several days of this week in Clifton on business.

SENATOR CAMERON
CONDEMNED BY
AMERICAN LEGION

Prescott, Aug. 10—John G. Emery, acting national commander of the American Legion was indorsed for reelection commander at the coming national convention in Kansas City by the state convention of the organization here today.

Adoption of the resolution indorsing Emery practically eliminates several Arizona candidates from the race for national commander, according to delegates to the convention.

Another resolution adopted today condemned United States Senator Ralph Cameron of Arizona, for his failure to keep an alleged pledge to support the adjusted compensation measure in Congress.

Twenty-five resolutions were adopted by the convention but only two of them referred to business affairs of the legion. These two appropriated \$500 for the expenses of the state commander during the coming year and the traveling expenses of the delegates to the national convention.

Publicity given by some newspapers of the state to the military records of persons accused or convicted of crime was deprecated and the state adjutant was instructed to request the editors to adopt a policy of "restraint" in connection with such matters.

Annual reports of several posts were read today. It was reported that the legion has gained members in many communities, but in others the posts have been crippled by reason of cessation of mining activities. In general, however, it was reported, the legion has held its own.

COCHISE COUNTY IS
FIRST AS TAXPAYER

Phoenix, Aug. 10—In their rank as taxpayers the largest counties appear in the following order since the state board of equalization has finished its work: Cochise, Gila Maricopa and Yavapai. As the returns were submitted to the board, Maricopa occupied the fourth place and evinced no disposition to take precedence over Yavapai.

Two circumstances caused the shift. One was the increase of the assessment of irrigated lands and town lots in this county as returned, and the other was the lowering of the assessment to \$5 a head of cattle of which Yavapai county as a larger number than any other county in the state.

The larger items of the budget on which the tax levy was calculated are as follows: The public school fund, \$1,254,375; the university appropriation and maintenance fund, \$965,000; the monibus road bill, \$803,000; the state road fund, \$415,000; the Temper normal school and maintenance, \$198,000; the state prison, \$155,000; normal maintenance, \$201,110; the state fair fund, \$107,669; the hospital for the insane, \$145,000; the pioneer home, \$44,000; the industrial school, \$44,000; land settlement commission, \$50,000; interest fund, \$259,600; for control of Cave creek floods, \$50,000; for vocational pursuits in the high and normal schools \$81,948.

There was another fund in which taxpayers might find some humor if money was a little more plentiful, that is the appropriation of \$40,000 which the taxpayers must raise to pay the interest to the state on the money loaned by the state to settlers under the Lyman dam. The unbusinesslike citizen may ask why this matter was not allowed to rest on the books instead of the state going through the motion of transferring money from one pocket to another. And it makes some difference to the taxpayers, too, inasmuch as it increases the tax levy by just so much.

Tim Chapman, old time resident and rancher of Sheldon, was a business visitor at the Court House on Wednesday of this week.

HOUSE VOTES TO
LIFT BAN ON STILL
IN HOMES

Washington, Aug. 16—Any householder could have home brew under interpretations placed upon an amendment to the Willis-Campbell beer bill, approved today by the house.

The amendment adopted as a substitute for a senate provision would require federal agents to have warrants before entering homes in search of liquor. It provides however, that no warrant shall be issued for a home "unless there is reason to believe such dwelling is used as a place in which liquor is manufactured for sale or sold."

Representative Fields, Democrat, Kentucky, declaring the house amendment would virtually sanction "home brew" provided it was not made to be sold, attempted to have the word "for sale" stricken out, but his motion was rejected, 96 to 54.

Volstead Favors Amendment. Representative Volstead, Republican, Minnesota, author of the original prohibition act, favored the house substitute as adopted. He declared later it would not change the policy of the prohibition enforcement bureau in reference to home brewing. No attempt of late has been made on orders from Washington, he said, to prohibit the home manufacture of potent beverages for personal use.

"The section we put in the bill provides that the law is to be enforced as we intended when we passed the prohibition act, said Mr. Volstead. "While it expressly stipulates that no homes are to be searched without warrant, and then only if the liquor made is being sold, federal officers can get evidence in other ways as to whether the law is being violated."

Fields Denounces Amendment.

"The section of the original act prohibiting the manufacture of liquor with alcoholic content of more than one-half of one per cent is still in force. Search of homes without warrants usually has been conducted under the revenue act which authorized such action under some circumstances."

Pleading for a tight ban on home brew, Mr. Fields declared that "if you say a man can rig up a distillery in his home, you kill the Volstead act."

DISCOVERS ART OF
TEMPERING COPPER

What should prove to be an important factor in bringing back the copper mining industry and greatly increasing the demand for the metal is reported in the press from Laporte, Ind. Walter Bunton of that city has just sold to the United States Steel corporation the patents of a process of hardening copper, by which it can be made as hard as steel. Some such process was known to the ancients because copper so tempered had been found in ancient ruins, but scientific men have not, until now, been able to discover the process.

The matter is of very vital interest in a county like this where copper is the chief resource and where enormous quantities of the metal are still to be mined.

The article which bears every evidence of being reliable and accurate appeared in Wednesday's Denver Post and is as follows:

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire) Laporte, Ind., Aug. 9—One million dollars cash and 2 cents a pound royalty will be paid by the United States Steel corporation to Walter Bunton of this city for his patent on tempering copper. The report was confirmed by Bunton Monday afternoon after a recent interview with Judge Gary and other steel company officials.

Bunton's discovery is one for tempering copper, an art lost since the days of ancient Romans. Tempered copper as Bunton has made it, means perhaps the hardest metal known unless it is Elwood Haynes' "steelite." It means cutting tools in machinery that will not strike sparks it means automobile, marine engine, locomotive and motor bearings will not burn out or crack as others do. Bunton will receive his money as soon as the discovery has gone the rounds of foreign patent offices. Not until then, by order of the steel company, is he at liberty to divulge the process.

It is known, however, that there are three stages to the process. The first treatment of pure copper makes it harder than copper has been made before when not alloyed, but keeps it still ductile and pliable. The second treatment makes it as hard as steel and the third so hard it cannot be cut by the best steel saw files, or chisels.

TAX RATE IN MARICOPA
COUNTY INCREASED 79c

Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 16th—The total state and county tax levy in Maricopa county this year will be \$1.82 as compared to \$1.03 a year ago, according to the levy made last night by the county board of supervisors. The total county levy this year is \$1.09 as compared to 55 cents a year ago. The state levy is 73 cents as compared to 47 1/2 a year ago. The assessed valuation of property for this year is \$129,814,743. Last year it was \$134,216,541.

COPPER INDUSTRY
SLOWLY ADJUSTING
ITSELF; SALES QUIET

The copper metal market was quiet during July, which is not unusual, as July and August are invariably "slow months," so far as sales of the red metal are concerned. June sales of copper for both foreign and domestic account were approximately 50,000,000 pounds, whereas the refinery output during the month was 45,000,000 pounds. However, at the present time, the refinery output has declined considerably below the June figures, and the metal surplus from now on will be whittled down at a more pronounced rate than has obtained during the past three months. The refineries are now treating blister copper from South American mines and a few of the smaller North American properties. The June sales by the Copper Export Association up to the close of business on June 29th were but 4,000,000 pounds, but on the last day of the month sales totalling 4,000,000 pounds were made, making the total for such account 8,000,000 pounds.

Opinions as to the present status of the metal market vary—some sellers reporting business each day for both foreign and domestic account, and others asserting that there is practically no demand. None of the leading producers has cut the price of the metal for spot shipment below 13 cents and sales have been made from this figure up to as high as 13 1/2 cents per pound for domestic consumers. Early in July sales were made for foreign account as high as 13 1/2 cents per pound, c. i. f. Hamburg.

Italy to Buy Copper

Copper authorities are confident that Italy will be in the market before the summer is over for a large tonnage of copper for hydro-electric projects. An Italian commission is now in this country investigating the matter of financing such work. The increased inquiry that was expected to result from the settlement of British coal strike has not materialized. It has been known for some time past that the small English purchases were due to the fact that Great Britain is getting copper from her colonies—principally Australia and New Zealand—but it is a well known fact that this supply is not sufficient to take care of the normal needs of the British Isles. During the eleven months ending June first, Germany purchased 113,785,672 pounds valued at \$17,231,611, all of which has been paid for in cash. Since the armistice, German purchases have totaled close to 200,000,000 pounds, of which quantity 117,485,284 pounds have been shipped, valued at \$30,248,931. In addition, between 50,000,000 and 75,000,000 pounds have been shipped to Holland since the war ended, and much of this undoubtedly found its way into Germany. Therefore, with the proclamation of President Harding, issued on July second, announcing that the state of war between Germany and the United States is ended, it is only natural to expect that there will be an increase in the export shipments to that country.

That the copper producers are planning to enter upon a campaign of national advertising or publicity to bring about a more diversified and extensive use of copper, is the assertion of a prominent man close to the situation. The campaign probably will be placed in the hands of producer's committee. It is believed it will prove effective, in view of what has been accomplished by other efforts along similar lines. Already considerable data has been collected for this purpose. It is fully realized that the producers have been backward or remiss in putting the advantages of copper before the public and that the industry needs publicity as much as anything.

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FIND GILA MONSTER
IN BUNCH BANANAS

F. C. Marshall, Tombstone merchant, could hardly believe his eyes, and this not been in the days of prohibition, he probably would have credited himself with "seeing" things" for this morning when in the act of cutting bananas from a large bunch in his window, a large Gila monster, dropped to the floor. Over half of the bananas had been removed from the stalk which has been hanging in the window for several days. The merchant says the reptile must have been at the top of the bunch in order to have escaped his notice during the several days bananas were being removed. The monster measured fully eighteen inches in length and was almost like the Arizona variety, although colored as nearly like a banana as possible. Whether it traveled all the way from Central America to its destination in Tombstone or whether it secreted itself in the bananas after it reached Arizona is problematical. The animal is now in captivity in Mr. Marshall's window.

Judge and Mrs. Frank B. Laine who have been spending the past six weeks at Los Angeles, San Francisco and other coast resorts, will return on Monday the 22nd inst.

SHERIFF NABS ORGANIZED
BAND OF YOUTHFUL ROBBERS

Sheriff Bradberry and deputies have been busy several days of this week rounding up a band of youthful burglars ranging between the ages of four teen and seventeen years who have been operating in Clifton the past several weeks. On Monday the Sheriff received a call from Gerardo Zorrilla, local merchant, that his store-room had been burglarized and that several sacks of grain and bales of hay had been removed. The Sheriff was soon on the trail of several suspects and in a few hours arrested two young Mexicans, who, after a severe grilling, admitted that they had burglarized Zorrilla's place, and later incriminated six or seven more young Mexicans who were arrested later. After being closely questioned several of the youths confessed to a number of burglars committed recently among which was the robbing of the Peoples Store, the ware-house of

Peter Mortensen, the Arizona Copper Company's Store, an Italian Shoe Shop on Chase Creek and other minor thefts not reported. Considerable loot was found at the home of some of the boys consisting of wearing apparel dry goods, toys, etc. which is being held by the Sheriff until the owners can identify the same.

Guadalupe Placencio, a Mexican aged about 45 years and residing on Chase Creek was arrested on Wednesday evening and charged with the crime of Contributory Delinquency, the youths apprehended stating that he had been purchasing their loot from them, and upon his premises being searched considerable of the stolen property was found stored therein.

The youths and Placencio are being held at the County Jail and will receive a hearing before Judge Laine in the Superior Court next week.

LOCAL RAINS DOING
WONDERS FOR
CATTLEMEN

Local showers, from light to heavy, have been so well distributed over the grazing of the entire country around Clifton that nearly all the ranges have been benefited and the condition of all stock greatly improved.

It is predicted among the cattlemen of this section that the fall growth of grass and everything else will be most wonderful. More rains are still likely to follow, and with the warm days in between, it is going to make a remarkable growth, everywhere in this area.

Cattlemen Are Pleased

While good rains have fallen thus far, and the hills are assuming a hue of green, it will be noted that already in several sections around Clifton the grass is several inches high. The cattlemen are rejoicing, feeling that their troubles for this season, due to the scarcity of feed, are a thing of the past.

Now, if by some hook or crook a good price could be obtained for stock, the ranchers and stockmen around Clifton would soon be put on their feet again. However, it is to be hoped that something will happen to bring about the very desirable result.

ARIZONA'S RATE IS
FIXED AT 73 CENTS

Arizona's tax rate has jumped 25 1/2 cents on every hundred dollars property valuation as the result of the "economy" session of the state board of equalization, which body has been meeting for the past eight days. The new tax rate will be 73 cents per \$100 as against 47 1/2 cents last year.

Decrease of \$54,000,000, or approximately 6 per cent, in the value of taxable property in the state is recorded in the finding of the board, made public last night, the total valuation being \$830,000,000 compared to \$884,000,000 for the previous year. Surprise was expected in some quarters that the tax rate was not set at a higher figure. Many persons looked for a 75 cents per \$100 announcement.

Elimination of the industrial commission, through court decision that the law creating it was unconstitutional, and disclosure that funds for vocational education would be necessary enabled the board to lower the tax rate somewhat. \$150,000 was to have been raised for the former and there remains a material unexpended balance for the latter from the previous appropriation of \$341,000 sufficient to conduct the work in the state. Reduction of 12 1/2 per cent in the taxable value of irrigated lands, an advance of half over the last recommended by the board of supervisors, was announced for Maricopa county. The board of supervisors has urged a 25 per cent slash on the \$182 per acre figure of last year.

The following changes were made in livestock assessments last year: Cattle, reduced from \$30 to \$25; sheep from \$8 to \$5; goats, from \$4 to \$3. The assessor and board of equalization of Maricopa county had reduced by 20 per cent to 25 per cent the valuations of all kinds of livestock last year. The state board restored these figures to the average throughout the state.

Peter Torrence, Engineer on the A. & N. M. Ry., who has been visiting his old home at Chapel Hall, Scotland, for the past three months, returned to Clifton on last Saturday. Mr. Torrence had not seen his old home for a period of thirty years.

B. F. Billingsley, Justice of the Peace at Duncan, was a business visitor at the Court House on last Monday.

THREE CHINAMEN
TO FACE FEDERAL
GRAND JURY

Hing Lee, a local Chinaman was this week haled before Judge Fox, acting in the capacity of U. S. Commissioner, on the charge of having in his possession intoxicating liquor, which he received through express. The Chinaman was apprehended by Sheriff Bradberry as he was attempting to carry the contraband from the Express Office, the same being packed in a box with vegetables and groceries. At the hearing Hing stated that he did not know that the box contained the two quarts of Chinese whiskey and that he did not use the same for beverage purposes but that it was a medicine. He was bound over to the Federal Grand Jury and admitted to bail in the sum of \$350.00 which was given.

Yee Pay and Wong Sing were also brought before the Judge for hearing, Pay and Sing having recently been apprehended by the local Sheriff's force on the charge of Transporting Opium through the United States mail. They were both bound over to the Federal Grand Jury and their bonds fixed in the sum of \$1000.00 each. Yee Pay made his bond but Wong Sing refused to give bail and is being held in the County Jail. Attorney Dave W. Ling is the attorney for the defendants.

Ima Zimmerman
Asks For Divorce

Ima Zimmerman has this week filed a petition for a decree of divorce from her husband W. C. Zimmerman and in her complaint alleges that she and defendant intermarried at Duncan, Arizona, on the 24th day of December 1916 and ever since have been and now are husband and wife. That for the past several years the defendant has treated this plaintiff cruelly, in threatening to do her bodily injury and cursing and abusing her, causing the plaintiff great anguish of mind, humiliation and mental suffering. The plaintiff also asks for the custody of the minor child, Alfred aged about two years and for the distribution of the community property which consists of personal property in the sum of Three Thousand Dollars.

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN

One day this week, an Era man was witness to what came pretty nearly being a serious accident at the intersection of the viaduct and Hill street. On Hill street there are two signs within 50 yards of each other that read: "Stop, This Street for West Traffic Only," yet these rules are constantly being violated by careless drivers, who will some day find themselves in the hospital and their cars in the repair shop.

COCHISE COUNTY TAX RATE
IS SET AT 55 CENTS ON \$100

The tax rate for Cochise county for county purposes for the year 1921 was fixed today by the board of supervisors at 55 cents on the \$100 valuation, which is an increase of 6 1/2 cents over last year, the tax rate for 1920 being 49 1/2 cents.

Added to the state rate which this year is 73 cents, the tax rate for Cochise county this year will be \$1.28 on the \$100 valuation.

County Treasurer, W. J. Collins, and family, are spending a few weeks camping in the valley.

Mrs. Dave W. Ling and children, who have been spending the past six weeks at Prescott visiting friends, returned to Clifton on last Saturday evening.